

## **New Linden Hill Road Working Group**

### **Minutes**

**Monday, May 20, 2002, 9 a.m.**

**Skyline United Methodist Church**

#### **ATTENDEES:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Agency</u></b>
Mary Dugan	Senator Sokola's Office
Pam Maier	State Representative
Joseph Miro	State Representative
Mary Wherry	Chestnut Valley
Daniel Bove	Creek Landing
Leslie Darden	Deacons Walk
Dave Johnson	Drummond Hill
Charlie Potts	Drummond Hill
John Obrien	Drummond Ridge
Pat Foster	Hills of Skyline
Ann DeFelice	Linden Hill Village
Dorothy Schukraft	Skyline Drive
Bob Warner	Skyline Drive
Wayne Hammond	Woodlea Apartments
Kelly Pitts	DelDOT
Chris Costello	DelDOT
Charlie Leary	DelDOT
Jim Satterfield	DelDOT
Julie Nacpil	DelDOT

#### **Project Update:**

A-Del Construction has completed placement of barriers. Traffic is in its Phase I pattern with drainage work taking place behind the barriers, working from Rt. 7 to Polly Drummond Hill Road. This work will continue through June. Around the beginning of July, a traffic switch will occur, shifting traffic onto the new pavement so that Phase II of the project can begin with work taking place on the opposite side of the road.

The light at Upper Pike Creek Road will be installed within the next two to three months.

#### **Questions and Discussion:**

- The question was asked whether the bike lane on the east side of New Linden Hill Road at Videre Drive (heading toward Rt. 7) could be eliminated? The bike symbol in the shoulder, on the east side of New Linden Hill Rd., serves as a warning to motorists that cyclists could be riding on the shoulder. The designated bicycle/pedestrian symbol on the west side of New Linden Hill Rd. is the preferred bike path.
- A question was then asked whether a cut could be paved in the grass area on the west side of New Linden Hill Rd. for bikes to cross over to the east side. Paving a cut in the grass for cyclists to cross over from west to east would not be a safe alternative. The project was designed with crosswalks at Skyline Drive for cyclists to access the east side of New Linden Hill Road, and the plans call for ample signage.
- A discussion took place about the shoulder at Videre Drive heading north (toward Rt. 7) in which two issues developed: whether the shoulder could be constructed as an

acceleration lane; or, whether posts could be installed in the shoulder to deter motorists from using the shoulder? Both alternatives pose safety hazards in the shoulder area; the shoulder is considered a clear zone. The Department's design standards prohibit the installation of any object in clear zones, therefore posts would not be a likely option. Changing the shoulder to an acceleration lane would put cyclists at risk that may be riding in the shoulder.

- A question followed asking whether barriers blocking the entrance/exit at Dunkin Donuts could be removed? That particular entrance is placed at the lane shift, and there is not a safe way to get traffic into and out of the parking lot at that point. Following the pattern encouraged by the barriers, where motorists turn at the light at Pike Creek Center Boulevard, is the safest way to get in and out of the parking lot.
- The issue about the overall safety in the placement of temporary striping was raised, where a resident asked whether the lines could be changed as the various phases in construction change? The problem with the striping is that the old lines are sandblasted off of the road surface, which sometimes the old lines can still be seen through. If striping problems arise on this project they will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- It was brought to the Department's attention that there was not construction signage at Polly Drummond Hill Rd. at the lane shifts. This issue was immediately addressed, and construction-warning signs are now in place.
- It was consensus of the working group in attendance at this meeting, that the "no turn on red" sign at Upper Pike Creek Rd., as recommended in the April meeting, not be installed with the light. This issue will be addressed, if necessary, after completion of the project, and traffic goes back to its normal state.
- There was confusion in the April 29 minutes about what Representative Miro would be researching. He contacted St. Mark's School to see if the gate from their property could be opened for use during construction. The principal indicated that he couldn't grant that request due to the potentiality of problems from the Meadowood residents who aren't receptive to the idea of opening the gate.

### **Action items:**

- Chris will check with the Department about the striping pattern at Videre Dr. during Phase II of the project.

### ***For questions or comments you may contact:***

Area Engineer: Chris Costello, 323-4460

Project Supervisor: Charlie Leary, 456-9926

External Affairs: Bud Freel, 577-5100

External Affairs: Kelly Pitts, 760-2080

***NEXT MEETING, Monday, June 17, 2002  
9 a.m. at Skyline United Methodist Church***